

Hoover overturns Court ruling

From Staff Reports

Vice Chancellor Richard Hoover overturned a recent Student Court decision Wednesday.

The Court had declared unconstitutional the March 19 Student Senate vote to cut *Gateway* funding to \$1.50 per student. The Student Activities Budget Commission (SABC) had recommended to keep funding at the current \$1.67.

Andria Palmesano, speaker of the Senate and counsel for defense, filed an appeal to Hoover asking him to determine the validity of the Court's ruling on Timothy M. Chavez and Heidi Jeanne Hess on behalf of the *Gateway* vs. Student Government. Hess is editor-in-chief of the *Gateway*, Chavez is a student senator.

In a letter to Cheryl Carter, Student Government treasurer and chair of SABC, Hoover stated: "In consultation with legal counsel, my determination is to find against the opinion of the Student Court. Therefore the Student Senate may amend, as appropriate, the Fund A budgets as presented to them by the Student Activities Budget Commission."

In the court case, Chavez and Hess argued that cutting *Gateway* funding was unconstitutional because the referendum students voted on during October elections specified \$1.67.

Student Government opposed the argument saying the dollar amount was given as an example.

Hoover gave four reasons for his decision:

- The computerized ballot on which students marked their votes had no reference to the amount of fees. There are three referendums on the ballot which ask students to vote yes or no to the *Gateway*, Student Government and the Student Programming Organization receiving Fund A student fee money.

- The ballot was ambiguous and it is difficult to ascertain exactly what or how students perceived or used the information.

- The statement at the bottom of the referendum: "a vote for or against any of these referenda (sic) will not necessarily raise or lower student fees" serves as a disclaimer and clarifies the information provided about the referendums.

- Since the election is held in late October, if the referendum votes were meant to determine funding, there would be no need to conduct the SABC or Student Senate budget process. The referendums are intended to let the University of Nebraska Board of Regents know if students support Fund A funding for the *Gateway*, Student Government and SPO.

The Student Senate will forward the 1992-93 proposed Fund A budget to Hoover for his approval. Hoover then will forward it to Chancellor Del Weber for final approval.

Hess has filed an appeal to Hoover asking him not to approve the budget with the *Gateway* funding at \$1.50 per student because the Senate's debate included discussion of the newspaper's editorial content. Hess' appeal claims the Senate's actions were a violation of the First Amendment.

Board hears complaints

The UNO Publications Committee heard two complaints Saturday which were filed by Student Sen. Mike Kennedy against *Gateway* reporter Kim Hansen. Kennedy claimed Hansen had displayed "unprofessional behavior," and that she had misquoted him in a March 10 article.

The alleged misquote involved an article titled, "Senate to fund 'Secrets'," regarding funding of the AIDS education play "Secrets." The Publications Board decided to hold the complaint for discussion until Kennedy could supply a tape recording of the Senate meeting in question.

The other complaint was about an April 7 article written by Hansen, which said grievances were filed with the Senate's Oversight Committee against Kennedy and other senators.

The story did not point out that Hansen had filed one of the grievances.

Hess told the Publications Committee she had made a "poor editorial decision" when she allowed the article to run without the names of the people who filed grievances. Hess also pointed out she, not Hansen, had written the section of the story Kennedy questioned.

The committee took no formal action against Hess or Hansen.

Brown at UNO Wednesday

Democratic Presidential candidate Jerry Brown will speak at UNO on Wednesday.

Brown, former governor of California, will make UNO one of his stops in his campaign trip to Omaha. The rally will be held outside on the south side of the Student Center at noon.

The event is being sponsored by Student Democrats, Youth for Peace and Common Ground.

Mike Jacobs of the Student Democrats and Tim Alexander of Youth for Peace recently circulated a petition at UNO to bring Brown to the campus.

Jacobs was informed of the rally on Monday. "The whole thing just kind of snowballed this afternoon (Monday)," he said.

Brown, who is to arrive at Eppley Airfield around noon, also is scheduled to attend a reception at Castle Barrett reception hall at 4330 Leavenworth St. at 5 p.m.

Quorum not met at last Senate meeting

Student Senate was scheduled to conduct its last meeting of the spring semester last Thursday, but was unable to complete any business because quorum was not reached.

Quorum is two-thirds of the sitting Senate which currently means at least 15 senators must be present for the Senate to conduct any business.

Student Senate's next meeting is May 14.

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— Eric Francis

UNO's new study hall? Many students gather to cram at Perkins on 6940 Dodge street.

Table for two, textbooks optional

By Greg Kozol

It's 10:30 p.m., UNO's library closes in a half-hour, and freshman Kris Guthrie is ready to hit the books.

She has all the study aids she'll need for her 8 a.m. Sociology 101 test: a textbook, class notes, study questions and — most importantly — coffee.

The black and gold jug, which holds about two pots of precious study Java, sits smack in the middle of Guthrie's table at the Perkins restaurant, 6940 Dodge St.

Guthrie, along with fellow UNO students Natasha Kraft and Mike Bartholet, are planning on an all-nighter at Perkins. That means lots of coffee.

"We do this all the time," says Guthrie, a freshman majoring in secondary education. "We always wait until the last minute. And UNO doesn't have dorms where you can have all-night study sessions. This is as close as you get."

The bright green sign outside the window says Perkins is a "family" restaurant. But not on this Wednesday night. Like most weeknights toward the end of the semester, this Perkins is full of students. Some come to study, some to socialize and some to sober up.

Whatever the reason, waiter Tod Kripps will be carrying plenty of those black and gold jugs to their tables.

Kripps, a UNO freshman working the 9 p.m. to 3 a.m. graveyard shift, estimates at 11 p.m. that 15 tables are occupied by groups of students — mostly from Creighton and UNO. He brings two glasses of Coke to the table where UNO students Pam Corrigan and Barb Hardman are sitting.

"The library closes at 10:45," Corrigan says while flipping through the mounds of notes and photocopies for her 10-page English 116 paper, due the next morning. "It's like, who wants to study that early?"

Corrigan, a junior majoring in communication, just started writing page one of the

paper into a spiral notebook.

Hardman is a senior majoring in elementary education. A written report for her teaching course also is due the next morning.

"We'll get it done," Hardman says. "It'll just be very early in the morning."

By midnight, nothing is getting done.

Hardman is lying down in the booth, discussing softball strategy with Tony Fugit, a UNO student who plays on her coed team. Corrigan is talking about Tara Muir's *Gateway* columns. Guthrie just sprinted across the room to talk to someone she recognized. Bartholet and Kraft are looking out the window, watching a police officer give someone a drunk-driving test in the parking lot.

It's to be expected, Hardman says. Studying at Perkins is full of distractions.

"Everybody knows everybody. It's hi-

See Perkins, page 5

LETTERS/OPINIONS

Parking is a bigger problem than yes or no to UNO dorms

Dear Editor:

In the Friday April 17 *Gateway*, a letter from UNO student Gary Johnson was printed: "Dorms should have priority over parking."

I do not agree with Johnson's opinion that "dorms should have priority over campus parking." In fact, the parking situation is a much more pressing problem and of greater concern to the majority of students at UNO.

Contrary to what Johnson would have us believe, parking at UNO is far from "fine and dandy." The university is not doing any favors for us in providing parking at Ak-Sar-Ben and a shuttle service to and from.

As a car owner, I, for one, do not have the time or inclination to get up in the morning and drive to Ak-Sar-Ben, find a parking spot and then have to take the shuttle to UNO. To me, this is an insulting compromise on the part of the university. It would be more convenient for me to walk two blocks to the MAT bus stop and catch the city bus that will transport me right up to UNO's front door.

To understand why a person might eventually throw their hands in the air in utter frustration and begin using the shuttle service; however, all you have to do is consider the alternatives:

1. Leave the house in the morning over an hour before your first class begins so that you have ample time. You allot 15-20 minutes for the drive there and 30-45 minutes for waiting to park. (If you have a night class, you may only have to wait 15-30 minutes.)

2. You can drive to UNO at the top of the hour and wait to catch students who are just making their way out of the parking lots. This tactic, usually successful, shaves around 15 minutes off your wait. (Caution: Frequent use of this technique may have an adverse effect on your GPA.)

3. If you only have one class on a certain day, you might park illegally and hope to beat the odds.

4. If you don't beat the odds, the next day you can place the citation from the day before on your windshield, hopefully thereby diverting the attention of Campus Security, and try again.

Clearly, it is no secret UNO is in need of dorms for its out-of-state students. However, I would venture to say there is a much greater percentage of student drivers at UNO than

students from out of state. And I think the university needs to address the issues that will serve a majority as their first priority.

I am not trying to encourage students to ignore the dorm issue. We can leave that up to the university. I am only suggesting that attending to the parking problem first would be much more responsive to the overall needs of the student community.

Kirk R. Monjarez
UNO Student

Right-to-lifers should stay out of other people's lives

Dear Editor:

I am writing in response to the April 14 Another View "Abortion kills ... for how long?" For once, I have to agree with a statement made by Tara Muir when she called the right-to-lifers "un-American, anti-woman and anti-choice."

This great country of ours is in part great because of our freedom of choice — which includes what to do with our bodies. I personally don't like abortion, but I sure as hell don't have the right to infringe my religious beliefs on another woman.

Overturning Roe vs. Wade is certainly not going to solve the abortion problem; it will only create more. We, as a country, will only be moving backward in time, not forward. I challenge all of you right-to-lifers to work harder on getting accurate birth control and information to our youth and to prevent these unwanted pregnancies from ever happening — this will reduce the number of needed abortions.

Quit fighting to take away a safe abortion from others, and start helping solve the problem.

One more thing to Ms. Carlston, who said, "It is as an American woman that I have chosen a freedom no establishment or a man or certainly any operation can offer me. ... I strongly support the rights of all human beings to make personal choices to their own lives."

You chose to have your baby. That is your right as an American citizen. But if myself or any other women chooses not to, it is none of your business.

I don't tell you how to eat, what to drink, how to live your life or what to do to your body — by God, I dare you to try and tell me what to do or not to do with my body.

Name withheld by request
UNO Student

Kennedy vs. Gateway feud 'getting a little ridiculous'

Dear Editor:

This whole Mike Kennedy/Student Senate vs. Student Court/Gateway feud is getting ridiculous. All the recent *Gateway* issues have everyone firing shots at each other and the whole thing is starting to read like a bad soap opera story line: Who will "Mad Mike" try to cut funding for next? Will the *Gateway* staff write another blistering editorial about "Kid Kennedy"? Who will Student Senate get to resign next? And what does Stephen Srb think about all this? (Does anyone really care?)

Let's cut to the chase.

The illustrious Sen. Kennedy, for those of you who haven't figured it out, is preparing to run for Student President/Regent in the fall. By getting his name printed in the *Gateway* every issue, he is picking up tons of name recognition. Smart move, Mike. Bob Kerrey found out what happens when you don't have name recognition.

Also, Mike is trying to build a coalition of supporters, and he seems to have found it in the College of Business and the Student Senate. But Mike has decided he doesn't need the power of the press behind him. That's not such a smart move, Mike.

Newspaper writers can write almost anything just short of libel and call it an editorial. "Slick Willie" Clinton's negative brushes with the media almost cost him his campaign. Pay attention, Mike.

Mike, do yourself and all of us a favor and put your political aspirations on the back burner for a while. You might want to try getting out of the Student Center and the College of Business once in a while and talk to some other students.

Not only are you losing touch with the student body, you're losing touch with reality.

Lance Braun
UNO Student

The last day to submit letters to the editor to be published this semester is Wednesday at 5 p.m. The last issue of the *Gateway* will be Friday. Letters should be dropped off to the *Gateway* office in Annex 26 located just south of Durham Science Center.

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THE GATEWAY:

ONE MORE TO GO!

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Letter policy: Letters will be selected for publication on the basis of timeliness, clarity, and available space. The editor reserves the right to edit all letters for publication.

Letters must be signed using the first and last name or initials and the last name. Letters must include the writer's address and phone number although this information will not be published. Letters to the editor exceeding two typed pages will not be considered for publication.

Alcohol does kill

Alcohol kills, and you don't have to be in a car.

Alcoholics start out as the life of the party with endless energy or the person who can out-drink anybody and boast of it. But the alcohol begins to ruin their life, turns them into outcasts of society, and then kills them.

Does this sound familiar? Is there an alcoholic in your family or are you one yourself?

My father died Feb. 24. He was an alcoholic and a diabetic and only 51 years old. And today, two months later, I finally can mourn him, this man who I thought was enjoying his ruined life.

He was a great Dad when I was growing up. He drove our motor home to my horse shows and had a barbecue for me and my friends. He did the same thing for a soccer tournament in Minnesota, too.

alcoholic, a man who lived for beer and cigarettes in a house in Carter Lake surrounded by local bars! Now I'm supposed to believe I could have helped him?

Reading the passages of recovered alcoholics and the people who forced them to sobriety was too much. They were even using Dad's name: Jack.

When my father died, he lay in the hallway of his home in front of the bathroom for nearly a week before his friends finally broke into his house. He had a history of disappearing on everyone, of showing up late, and many times, not at all.

The coroner still does not know his cause of death. Milam and Ketchum explain: Alcoholism is not accepted as a disease that can kill. Coroners are usually puzzled after an alcoholic dies. Of course, the coroners are telling us it must have been the diabetes, but they can't prove it.

My sister and I, with our arms linked, had to determine if my father was even "view-

able" at the funeral home. The man in the casket was not my Dad, and I will have the memory of his bloated face and sunken, wrinkled eyes burned into my memory until the day I die.

My two nephews were so upset they couldn't see Grandpa one last time, we finally had to ask the funeral director to open the casket once more.

"Now, were we right that that isn't Grandpa?" Brandon, the sensitive 7-year-old, tears streaming down his puckered face, shook his head and buried his tears in his mother's arms.

My father died Feb. 24. Today, as I write, is the first time I have been able to feel the actual gut-wrenching pain and complete loss of my father, the only Dad I will ever know. I am an adult child of an alcoholic. It is too late for me to save my father now that I know he was savable. I am working on accepting that his death wasn't my fault; it was the alcohol and what it did to my father, and my entire family.

It has taken this long for my anger to finally subside, and all at once, this morning, driving to school and listening to some stupid mellow radio station that played an idiotic song where this man was wailing about how he couldn't cry hard enough for this person who had either left him or died. The words to that sappy song keep invading my thoughts, "I can't cry hard enough for you to hear me now." I hope you can hear me, Dad, because I was helpless. I know now you were helpless, too.

It is Alcohol Awareness Month, and I needed to tell you my story about alcohol. The simple message, "Don't drink and drive," doesn't cut it with me. If there is a history of drinking problems in your family, don't drink. Period. You are predisposed to alcoholism, and you won't be the only one who suffers.

Is it your problem, too?

AIDS affects all of us

AIDS — the one word of the last decade that arouses myriad emotions, from pure anger to wrenching pain.

Recall, if you can, 10 years ago when AIDS was first noticed; when there were the four Hs — Homosexuals, Haitians, Heroin addicts and Hemophiliacs. Those were the only people that "got it." Everyone else was safe and doctors all over were saying it would never infiltrate heterosexual society.

It was so easy to sit back and think that the problem was not yours; that "it" was a disease

not much.

There are still hundreds of people who can't get good health care because they have AIDS. There are still people who think AIDS is God's punishment for people who are bad or un-Christianlike. People still think to themselves every day that AIDS is something only gay men get and that the people who have it deserved in some way to get it.

How can a country that has the ability to feed hundreds of thousands of people, give aid to other countries so they can care for their sick, and spend billions of dollars on a space program remain so ignorant about an epidemic that has killed more than a million people worldwide?

That is a question we all need to ask ourselves.

AIDS is the fastest-growing killer of women. More and more teen-agers are being diagnosed with it. Babies are born infected, and children are dying from it.

How can people still believe that it is something they don't have to worry about? What makes them think that the problem is not theirs, too?

The chances are very high that someone close to you will contract AIDS within the next five years.

What will you do?

Will you be able to convince yourself that your brother, your sister, your aunt, your uncle or your friend deserved it?

Will you still think that AIDS is something only bad people get?

Will you be one of the ignorant people that still thinks AIDS isn't your problem?

TO THE LEFT WITH TARA-MUIR

When I was 6 or 7 years old, he drove up to a pasture where three horses stood looking over the fence at us. He said, "The middle one's yours." He let me have lobster when we dressed up and went downtown to Cascio's restaurant, too.

My parents divorced when I was 13. I never knew it was because my mother couldn't stop good ol' Dad from drinking, but I knew she couldn't get away from him when he did drink.

Seven years later, on my own in Miami, I needed to talk to Dad. I called him collect, as I thought daughters just starting out in life could do with their fathers. When the operator asked if he would accept the charges from Tara, he replied with a hiccup, "No," and hung up.

He had been drunk. My sister had been telling me he was always in trouble, charged with being a public nuisance once in a while and then losing his business. I thought he had turned into an alcoholic because his wife left him, and his kids weren't too thrilled with him either.

We were all ashamed, but now I know how ashamed he was too, and out of control. One year ago, I naively let him talk me into believing he was starting his business again, just as soon as he could get the IRS off his back. I couldn't face the fact it was the same story, every year, for the past 10 years.

In the book, "Under the Influence," by James R. Milam and Katherine Ketchum, where they medically, physiologically and mentally debunk the myths of alcoholism, I learned the world is an alcoholic's oyster until his or her predisposed bodies become hooked on the alcohol.

This book angered me. How dare this book tell me that it wasn't Dad's fault he was an

STAFF EDITORIAL AIDS

that was only affecting the scourges of society — "those" people.

"Those" people were so ignorable. After all, gay men, well, they deserved it ... they're perverts anyway. And the Haitians, they weren't real Americans ... why worry about them? Heroin addicts, well everyone knows degenerates like that are just asking for bad things to happen to them. They are just disposable people, you know. They don't really count ... not really.

Now the hemophiliacs, they are different. They got it from all those other horrible people who donated blood; after all, it can't be the hemophiliacs' fault they were sick and needed blood products to remain relatively healthy.

We have all heard safe sex talks, and now that Earvin "Magic" Johnson — a heterosexual — is HIV-positive, maybe some of the views about who gets AIDS have changed. But

The winner is ...

When it comes to awards, all are shadowed by the prestige of the Nobels, the Pulitzers, the Grammys, the Emmys and the Tonys.

That is, until now. (Spotlights, drum roll, red carpet and limousines.)

Ladies, gentlemen, loyal readers and fellow Conserva-tyrants, welcome to the Right Wing Academy's first annual Ernie Awards.

Awarded for excellence in ignorance, the coveted Golden Ernie is granted to those rare individuals who rise above the average, daily stupidity to become the tops of those representing the bottom rung on the intelligence ladder.

This year has proven to be bountiful for the selection committee, so we'll skip the fanfare and go right to our nominees.

Our first nominee comes to us straight from our state capital. You've known him for years as that lovable coach who has choked more times than the stars of Deep Throat, let's give a big Academy welcome to Tom "The Hell with the First Amendment" Osborne.

Although Tom is best known as the most boring man in college football, he recently has upped the excitement meter in Nebraska with his blatant disregard for the constitutional rights of the staff of the *Daily Nebraskan*.

Our second nominee is actually a group representing another campus in the NU system. Like Osborne, it too enjoys censorship and abuse of power as leisure activities.

Let's put our conservative hands together for that mad-cap bunch of student law-makers, UNO's own Student Senate.

Since this year's show is dedicated to the men and women who brought you the First Amendment, it wouldn't be complete if we didn't nominate that bunch of wild and crazy do-gooders who won't sleep until record and book stores sell only Bach and the Bible. Let's

give a big cheer for Omahans for Decency.

Our next nominee is yet another group. This clan of fun-loving Fremont citizens claim that a lone topless bar is responsible for transforming their sleepy, church-bred community into a thriving den of sin and iniquity equalled only by Los Angeles, Chicago and New York. Won't you please welcome Fremont's own Citizens for Decency.

I'd like to take this time while the judges are tallying up their votes to remind you that this group of upright freedom-squashers represent only the tip of the ignorance iceberg. In addition

TO THE RIGHT WITH KENT WALTON

to their great strides in stupidity, they all share a common blindness to the basic freedoms of press, speech and expression.

Well, the time has come. The envelope please. The winner of this year's Ernie for excellence in ignorance is ... us.

That's right, you and me.

We can't blame these groups for expressing their views. We can't blame them for speaking out against what they believe is wrong. But we can blame ourselves for not standing up and opposing them.

As long as people are out there campaigning to destroy our freedoms, it will be our responsibility to stop them.

You may not support topless dancing, and you may not like everything in the newspaper or listen to 2 Live Crew, but what are you going to do when some group comes along and determines that your freedoms are obscene or wrong?

I'd like to close this year's awards with a phrase from my first column: "The only way for evil to triumph, is for good men to do nothing."



NEWS CLIPS

Joslyn holds annual membership drive

Joslyn Art Museum is holding its annual membership drive during April with the theme "Put Yourself in the Picture ... Join Joslyn Art Museum."

A membership costs \$25 for an individual, \$35 for a family/dual and \$15 for a senior citizen or student membership. A dual senior membership costs \$30.

Some of the benefits of membership include unlimited free admission to the museum, invitations to attend private exhibition openings and receptions, and Joslyn News, a bi-monthly schedule of museum programs and activities published for members. Also, members receive a 10 percent discount on all purchases from the museum shop, and reduced prices for special events, such as art classes, trips, and concerts.

For more information, call 342-3300.

number of pool lengths they swim in one hour. Proceeds benefit local Red Cross "Learn to Swim" and "Water Safety" programs. T-shirts and other prizes will be awarded.

Participants who raise more than \$25 can attend a free clinic taught by Cal Bentz, head swimming coach at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Official entry and sponsor sheets can be obtained from local health clubs, sporting goods stores and the American Red Cross. For more information, call 341-2723.

UFOs subject of physics discussion

Professor John Kasher of the physics department will talk about unidentified flying objects (UFOs) Thursday at 1:30 p.m. in the Engineering Building, Room 101.

The lecture is a part of the Natural Science 2010 Space Course. The talk will include local and regional sightings, alien abductions, important international cases, English crop circles, the government cover-up of UFO information and more.

The public is invited. For more information, call 554-3730.

Luncheon honors alumni and faculty

UNO's College of Education honored six of its graduates and one retired faculty member April 16 at the annual Distinguished Alumni Program and Luncheon.

Alumni honored include Mark Caughey, director of Parks and Recreation for La Vista; Joyce Christensen, principal of Omaha South; and Judith Dobson, a professor of counselor education at Oklahoma State University.

Also honored were John Morrissey, a teacher of special education, English and speech at Ralston High School; Bernice Nared, an assistant principal at Omaha Central; and JoAnn

Tews, a sixth grade teacher at Walnut Grove Elementary in Council Bluffs.

The Award of Distinction was presented to Leta Holley, who retired from UNO's College of Education in 1973.

Ebony Fashion Fair at Orpheum May 8

The 34th Annual Ebony Fashion Fair's "Fashion with Passion" will be May 8 at 8 p.m. at the Orpheum Theater.

The show is a benefit for the Omaha Links, Inc. Scholarship Fund.

Admission is \$20 and includes a one-year subscription to *Ebony*, *EM* or six months of *Jet* magazines. Tickets are available at the Civic Auditorium, TIX, Offutt and Leola's. Tickets also will be available the night of the show at the Orpheum Theater.

Gateway garners awards in contests

The Gateway took first place in overall excellence in the American Scholastic Press Association (ASPA) competition and third in general excellence in the Rocky Mountain Collegiate Press Association (RMCPA) competition. Awards were announced last week.

The ASPA included colleges and universities with enrollment of more than 2,500 students. Best editorial in the ASPA competition was awarded to Heidi Jeanne Hess.

The following Gateway staff members were awarded honors in the RMCPA competition:

Feature writing: third place to Greg Kozol; General column: first place to Tara Muir; Editorial cartoon: second and third place to Chad Crouch;

Single advertisement: third place to Shannan Johnson;

Picture story: first place to Ed Carlson; and Special section: second place to Greg Kozol.

Gauhari discusses Afghan manuscript

Farooka Gauhari, a lab manager in UNO's biology department, will discuss her unpublished manuscript "Afghanistan: Land of Flags" Tuesday at noon.

Gauhari's discussion with Darrel Berg of the University Religious Center is part of the UNO Authors Series sponsored by United Christian Ministries in Higher Education. Gauhari is a native of Afghanistan.

The event is a brown bag lunch.

Lecture rescheduled due to snow day

The Last Lecture series presentation scheduled for April 21 has been rescheduled for Wednesday at noon in the Student Center. UNO was closed April 21 due to a snow storm.

UNO Wrestling Coach Mike Denney will speak at the brown bag lunch which will be in the Student Center Omaha Room.

Shroder recognized for tree-ring dating

John Shroder, professor and chairman of the geography-geology department at UNO, has been elected to the rank of Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Shroder developed new methodology for tree-ring dating in the mid-1970s. By using a tree bore, core samples can be pulled from a tree's trunk which visually show the tree's history.

The rings can show such events as landslides, fires and droughts that have affected the tree.

By using the tree-ring data, scientist can visualize and learn the timing and manner in which landslides occur.

IN THE AREA ...

Reception honors aviation director

A retirement reception will honor Bill Shea, director of the Aviation Institute, on Tuesday. Shea will semi-retire from UNO effective July 1.

The reception will be in the Student Center dining rooms A and B from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Red Cross to hold swim fund-raiser

The 1992 Red Cross Swim-A-Cross fund-raiser will be May 3 at the Prairie Life Center from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Participants' pledges will be based on the

Register for Class.

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anything done. Freaks come to your table — always when you're busy. They say they're from another country and they try to hit on you.

"Then you see them at Crossroads the next day, and you try to hide."

Kripps, bringing a second coffee pot to Guthrie's table, says there will be plenty of distractions after 1 a.m.

"This whole place will be drunk," he says. "I know. I used to be one of them."

Shortly after 1 a.m., Melody Burke, Jennifer Kluck and Jennifer Martins stumble into their booth.

"The first wave just hit," Kripps says.

Burke, Kluck and Martins are seniors at the University of South Dakota. The three made the trip from Vermillion, S.D., to see the band Trip Shakespeare play at the Ranch Bowl. Now they need coffee and food before the two-hour drive home.

"It's sober-up time," Burke says.

After taking a sip of coffee, Kluck notices three guys staring in her direction.

"Hey, check out those guys," she says. "They look like they just got out of a tanning booth. One of them still has his hair feathered like it's the '70s."

One of those tanned guys struts over, sits next to Martins and puts his arm around her.

"We're single," he says confidently. "You three should sit with us."

"Beat it," Martins says.

"Your tan is peeling off," Burke replies.

"Rapel Rapel Rapel!" Kluck screams at the top of her lungs.

Now more red than tan, he shuffles back to his booth, sits down and gives Kluck the finger.

Guthrie, meanwhile, is pulling back the blinds on the window, watching the police administer another drunk-driving test.

"Oh, I think they got him," Guthrie tells Kraft.

"You do get cheap entertainment here," Kraft says.

"Yep," Guthrie replies. "I saw a guy pass out in his pancakes once."

By 2:30 a.m., most of the drunk crowd has left. A handful of students remains. Most quietly study and drink coffee.

Kripps is scooping up a plate of half-eaten eggs and

wondering when he'll get to go home.

"I've been working here since January, and I've never seen it this crowded on a weekday night. I'll be cleaning up until 6 a.m."

But he counts \$42 in cash tips, plus a wad of change that jingles in his pocket.

"The life of a waiter," he says.

At 4 a.m., only the hard-core students remain. Guthrie and Kraft are on their third coffee jug. Kripps gives Corrigan and Hardman a water refill.

"Ohhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh," Corrigan says, running her fingers through her hair. "Six pages done. Four to go."

Hardman finishes at 4:30 a.m. Kraft and Guthrie leave a half-hour later. After six hours, they say they're ready for the exam.

"We did pretty good tonight," Kraft says. "It was noisy, but we zoned it out. Sort of like television."

It's 5 a.m. The sun will be up soon. Corrigan, her table a mess of papers and books, will probably see it. She says she is going to finish that paper.

"You feel pretty good when it's done," she says. "Plus, the ones you whip up at the last minute are usually the best."

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CCSW honors two at Anthony's luncheon

By Lori Safranek

The Chancellor's Commission on the Status of Women (CCSW) chose Gloria Rial, director of UNO's Women's Resource Center (WRC), and the Women's Development Center as its 1992 award recipients.

Rial and the Women's Development Center received plaques at the CCSW's 6th Annual Awards Luncheon Wednesday at Anthony's restaurant.

Rial, who received the individual award, is the student director of the WRC, an agency of Student Government. During Rial's term as director, the WRC has sponsored programs such as "Disabled Women and Issues of Sexuality," "Secret Addictions: Women, Drugs and Alcohol" and "Women's Work is Never Done."

Rial also has contributed to the WRC's development of a resource library and referral system.

"For me, the WRC has been a learning experience," Rial said. "I feel a little guilty for getting an award for something I've learned so much from."

The Women's Development Center, 48th and Center streets, began as a practicum in UNO's School of Social Work by Diane Gillespie, Rita Murphy and Julie Kalkowski, according to the CCSW.

The center's services include providing support for women in the arts, workshops and seminars, and access to information on women's issues and local women's businesses.

Final Examination Schedule

Second Semester, 1991-92
May 2-May 8

Class Meeting	Time: Day and Date	Examination Hours
Saturday Morning Classes	Sat. May 2	9:00- 11:00 a.m.
7:00 MWF or more days	Fri. May 8	7:00- 9:00 a.m.
7:00 TTH Only	Thur. May 7	7:00- 9:00 a.m.
8:00 MWF or more days	Mon. May 4	8:00- 10:00 a.m.
8:30 TTH Only	Tues. May 5	8:30- 10:30 a.m.
8:00 MWF	Wed. May 6	8:00- 11:00 a.m.
10:00 TTH Only	Thur. May 7	10:00- 12:00 noon
10:00 MWF or more days	Fri. May 8	10:00- 12:00 noon
11:00 MWF or more days	Mon. May 4	11:00- 1:00 p.m.
11:30 TTH Only	Tues. May 5	11:30- 1:30 p.m.
12:00 MWF or more days	Wed. May 6	12:00- 2:00 p.m.
1:00 TTH	Thur. May 7	1:00- 3:00 p.m.
1:00 MWF or more days	Fri. May 8	1:00- 3:00 p.m.
2:00 MWF or more days	Mon. May 4	2:00- 4:00 p.m.
2:30 TTH	Tues. May 5	2:30- 4:30 p.m.
3:00 MWF or more days	Wed. May 6	3:00- 5:00 p.m.

Professors, at their discretion, can reschedule the time and day to administer your final exam.

Any student scheduled for three or more final examinations on the same day during the Final Examination Week may elect to take only the first and last of those regularly scheduled on that day. Such election by the student to the affected instructor must be made no later than two weeks prior to the examination date. It will be the responsibility of the student to present authentication of the three exam day to the instructor of the course affected. The rescheduled examinations will then be taken on another day during the Final Examination Week as arranged by the student and course's instructor.

Evening Classes
(Classes which meet at 4:00 p.m. or later)

- Classes which meet one time per week will have final examinations at their regularly scheduled meeting times.
- Final examinations for classes meeting two times per week are scheduled as follows:

Class Meeting	Time: Day and Date	Examination Hours
4:00 MW	Wed. May 6	4:00- 6:00 p.m.
4:00 TTH	Thur. May 7	4:00- 6:00 p.m.
4:15 MW	Wed. May 6	4:15- 6:15 p.m.
4:15 TTH	Thur. May 7	4:15- 6:15 p.m.
6:30 MW	Mon. May 4	6:30- 7:30 p.m.
6:30 TTH	Tues. May 5	6:30- 7:30 p.m.
6:45 MW	Mon. May 4	6:45- 7:45 p.m.
6:45 TTH	Tues. May 5	6:45- 7:45 p.m.
6:00 MW	Mon. May 4	6:00- 8:00 p.m.
6:00 TTH	Tues. May 5	6:00- 8:00 p.m.
6:30 MW	Wed. May 6	6:30- 8:30 p.m.
7:00 MW	Wed. May 6	7:00- 9:00 p.m.
7:00 TTH	Thur. May 7	7:00- 9:00 p.m.
8:30 MW	Wed. May 6	8:30- 10:30 p.m.
8:30 TTH	Tues. May 5	8:30- 10:30 p.m.

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Entries must be received by June 1, 1992. Awards will be made in the Fall semester of the 1992-93 academic year. Each entry must include a cover sheet listing the name and address of the college, name, address and telephone number of competing student(s) or student organization(s); and a signed statement permitting widespread reproduction by OSAP. There is no limit on the number of entries which can be submitted by a student, college, or college organization. Send all entries to:

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—File photo

Saturday's Diet Pepsi Women's Walk raised a projected \$78,000 for the UNO Women's Athletic Department. The next Diet Pepsi Women's Walk will be April 17, 1993.

UNO walk successful, uh-huh

By Daren Schrat

Diet Pepsi's "Uh-huh Month" couldn't have come at a better time for UNO Assistant Athletic Director Connie Claussen.

The 7th annual Diet Pepsi Women's Walk was held Saturday, and an estimated \$78,000 was generated for the Lady Mav Athletic Program.

"I think we're going to hit \$80,000. I'm optimistic," Claussen said.

Last year's walk raised \$80,000. Of that total, \$17,000 came from donations following the event.

The Diet Pepsi Women's Walk raises money to cover traveling expenses and athletic scholarships for the Lady Maverick athletic teams. Pepsi-Cola Bottling Company has donated \$15,000 each year to the Lady Mavs since 1988. The event is designed to recoup the state funding the Lady Mavs lost in 1986.

"We didn't have to raise money (before 1986); we didn't have the major budget cuts," Claussen said.

"We soon learned quickly how to raise money."

The Diet Pepsi Women's Walk itself is a 30-minute walk around the track at Al F. Caniglia Field or on a set course on campus. Participants in the Diet Pepsi Women's Walk may enter as individuals or as a team. Captains of each team try to recruit as many walkers as possible to pledge a donation. The walkers may pledge a donation based on the number of laps made around the track at Caniglia Field or they may pledge a set donation.

This year's walk fielded 90 teams, consisting of 1,400 signees and more than 900 actual participants. Nebraska Gov. Ben

Nelson and his wife, Diane, were among those participating.

People who raised more than \$100 were eligible to win prizes, such as a scenic flight over Omaha courtesy of Sky Harbor, two weekend nights at the Quaterage Hotel in Kansas City from Travel and Transport, and \$100 gift certificates from Hy-Vee and Merry Maids. Those who raised more than \$200 were eligible to draw for a 14-karat gold citrine bracelet worth \$1,000 was donated by Borsheim's Jewelry and a pair of Continental Airlines tickets.

Claussen said Pepsi has eliminated most of its fund-raisers due to corporate cutbacks, but has made a commitment to sponsor the Diet Pepsi Women's Walk. Claussen quoted Janet Faust, the Associate Area Marketing Manager for Nebraska and Kansas, as saying, "It's nice to sponsor something people appreciate."

Claussen approached Pepsi for support back when UNO hosted the Women's College World Series. She said Buzz Sübbs, Pepsi's president, called to see what Pepsi could do to help.

"Back in 1969-70, not many people called to help women's athletics. It was a natural since they, Pepsi, are the soft drink on campus," she said.

Claussen said she put an emphasis on making the team captain's job easier and making sure signees wouldn't forget to attend by mailing them all postcards.

"I wanted to make it as easy as possible for the walkers and team captains, and as organized as possible to make it fun," she said.

"It's nice to hear people say how much fun it was and they will be back next year."

Liz's annual field review

All good things must come to an end.

Every stock car race has a final lap, every baseball game has a ninth inning and every sports season eventually draws to a close.

Daren and I have explored the complexity of athletics this semester, tackling pertinent issues ranging from Proposition 16 to hockey at UNO. This final week is no exception.

While the onslaught of rain and snow has saturated Omaha's softball fields over the past few weeks, the spirit of competitiveness in the Omaha Softball League cannot be dampened. As a guide to the upcoming softball season, here's a rundown on some of the local fields.

Westchester Field: Nestled in the heart of midtown Millard, this field offers spacious dugouts and a finely manicured infield. Although the field is attractive, it can be deceptive. Take caution and watch the umpire closely when he places the bases.

Westchester's infield appears to be larger than most, and sometimes the men in blue tend to space the bases out wider than

THE RIGHT CALL BY LIZ MERRILL

necessary. Triples can be converted to singles in this travesty and trips around the bags sometimes can be timed by an hourglass.

Bring a good pair of running shoes and a measuring tape to Westchester.

Hitchcock Park: Located off 45th and Q Streets, this group of fields offers a hitter's bonanza. Launch one off of the north field and leave opposing outfielders running for blocks.

A sharply hit ball on any of the other adjacent fields wakes up sleeping outfielders playing different games. Power may not even play a part in a home-run ball at Hitchcock. A decent roll between an unsuspecting outfielder's legs will earn the crafty hitter a non-stop trip around the bases.

Seymour Smith: Softball heaven. I saw my first over-the-fence home run hit at this location. The batter capitalized on a pitch with no arch and blasted it over the chain-links, where it rested comfortably in a bed of grass.

Does it look like rain? Pack an umbrella and get ready to play ball, as Seymour Smith has one of the finest field drainage systems in town.

Towl Park: Hidden inside an enchanted forest off 90th and Center next to Putt Putt Golf, Towl Park offers a similar obstacle course for the batter. A long ball has the potential to sail into a nearby ravine.

Along with the forest-type atmosphere comes an amalgamation of wildlife inhabiting the nearby area. Play is often delayed due to anxious dogs rushing the field. Bring a leash and a can of bug spray to Towl.

Mavs share twin-bill with 'lumber' Jacks

By Daren Schrat

A fifth-inning rally led by a two-run double from Tim Meyer erased a 4-0 South Dakota State lead as the Mavs went on to defeat the 12th-ranked Jackrabbits 5-4 in a double-header split Saturday at College World Series Park.

The Jacks jumped ahead quickly when Ryan Krogman reached first base on a fielder's choice and scored when Tracy Langer tripled.

The Jacks added another run in the second when they loaded the bases, and scored a run when Krogman walked to score Pat Schmidt.

The Jacks increased their lead to 4-0 in the third when Langer walked and Doug Sehr singled. Then with runners on second and third, Chris Wilson stroked a two-run single.

In the bottom of the inning, the Mavs made their first attempt to get back into the game. A single by Jay Maia and a walk by Jeff Gordon went to waste when the Mavs could not get another hit off the Jacks' starter, Chad Coley.

The Jacks stranded two runners in the fourth, as UNO ace Steve Paup cooled down and finally

held the Jacks to a scoreless inning. The Mavs found some momentum in the bottom of the inning when Tim Hallett and Bernie Imig walked and worked their way into scoring position. A fielder's choice ball hit by pinch-hitter Marty Merrill resulted in a UNO run.

The Jacks again were held in check by Paup in the fifth, as Bill Dropinski threw out Joe Hardin as he tried to steal second base.

The tide shifted in the Mavs' favor in the bottom of the fifth. Three consecutive singles by Gordon, Dropinski and Joe Deutsch cut the Jacks' lead 4-2. Then Meyer slammed a double to bring home Deutsch and Dropinski. The Mavs took the lead for good as Meyer advanced to third when Hallett flew out and scored when Matt Piechota singled.

With a lead in hand, Paup finished off the Jacks in the final two innings to improve to 6-2. The loss was the first this season for the Jacks within the North Central Conference.

"I thought those guys came back good and tough," UNO Manager Bob Gates said of his players.

In the second game, the Jacks played with a vengeance. UNO starter Cory Erspamer was jambed early when Jon Crow reached first base on an error and second on a wild pitch. Then Krogman belted a home run, putting South Dakota State ahead 2-0.

Erspamer was pounced upon again in the second inning when Crow hit a solo shot out of left field to put the Jacks in command 3-0.

"They (South Dakota State) have some good hitters," Gates said.

The Mavs tried another rally in the bottom of the second, when Hallett walked and Piechota singled and reached second on an error.

However, the inning ended when pinch-hitter Mike Sullivan hit a ground ball toward the Jacks' shortstop Greg Endres. In an attempt to field the ball, Endres fell over Piechota as he was running for third. Endres caught his face on Piechota's spikes and was badly injured. Piechota was ruled out for interference, and the Mavs left two runners stranded. Endres left the game with facial lacerations.

In the bottom of the third, the Mavs missed

again. Maia singled, and stole second and third base. With Maia 90 feet from home plate, the Mavs could only muster a fly ball, a strikeout and a failed stolen base attempt.

The Jacks added another run in the fourth by loading the bases and scoring an unearned run when Krogman slapped a grounder to allow Pat Schmidt to score. The Mavs avoided being shut out in the bottom of the inning when Meyer reached first on an error and advanced to second on a passed ball. The Mavs loaded the bases and got a free run when the Jacks' starter Jeff LaMontagne walked Bill Ryan.

The Jacks went ahead 5-1 when Sehr scored on a single by Wilson after they loaded the bases and put Erspamer out of the game in favor of reliever Don Karbowski.

The Mavs scored a run in a last-ditch effort to pull out a win after Dropinski walked and scored on another RBI double by Meyer. The Jacks were able to stave off the Mavs with four-hit pitching by LaMontagne and Jon Mams in a 5-2 victory.

"We just didn't hit enough," Gates said. "It's tough to win on four hits and two runs."

Dance team makes big strides in short time

By Scott Dingfield

UNO's Maverick Girls dance team only formed two years ago, but it already is winning at national competitions.

"We want to be great," said Jean Kavallauskas, team captain.

The 1991-92 Maverick Girls placed seventh out of 24 teams in January at the National Cheerleader Association's (NCA) Division II Collegiate National Championships in Dallas.

The Maverick Girls incorporate funk, jazz and pompon in their performances at UNO basketball home games, as well as community events and fund-raisers.

"We have a group of people who were really competitive in high school and did really well. Because they did so well in high school they want to take it another step and become the best they can," Kavallauskas said.

During the January competition, the Maverick Girls out-scored many teams with previous national experience.

In the NCA's summer camp competition last August, the Maverick Girls received first runner-up trophies in both the fight song competition and overall award of excellence.

"The national competition is incredible," Kavallauskas said.

The team also was selected as only one of

four to earn a trophy for routines choreographed by team members.

Of the more than 300 competitors at the summer camp, only 24 were recognized as All-American, including Maverick Girls team members Alicia Carman, Kim Graham, Kavallauskas and Jamie Martig.

Martig was one of 10 contestants invited by the NCA to join its camp staff during the 1992 summer camp tours throughout the United States.

The team will attend the August NCA summer camp in Lincoln.

Preparation for the summer camp begins with three practices per week in May, Kavallauskas said.

"You have to be polished and perfect. Our rules are strict, but everybody has a goal to be good," she said.

"It's hard sometimes, but I wouldn't go out on the floor if the routine wasn't polished."

The dance team recently held tryouts for the 1992-93 squad. Sixteen contestants made the team, said Edsel Buchanan, Maverick Girl sponsor/advisor.

Along with Kavallauskas, next year's co-captains are Laura Brown and Martig.

"About half the girls trying out are seniors in high school and will attend UNO next fall," said Buchanan, professor in the School of Health, Physical Education and Recreation.



Mav Girls dance team competes at National Cheerleading Association Summer Camp in Lincoln in August 1991. From left, front row: Alicia Carman, Shawn Hovey, Michelle Hovey and Kim Graham; second row: Jamie Martig, Laura Brown, Cristi Copeland, Jill Widtfeldt and Jean Kavallauskas; and back row: Tricia Cole, Kim Markworth, Kerri Torozon and Michelle Reyes.



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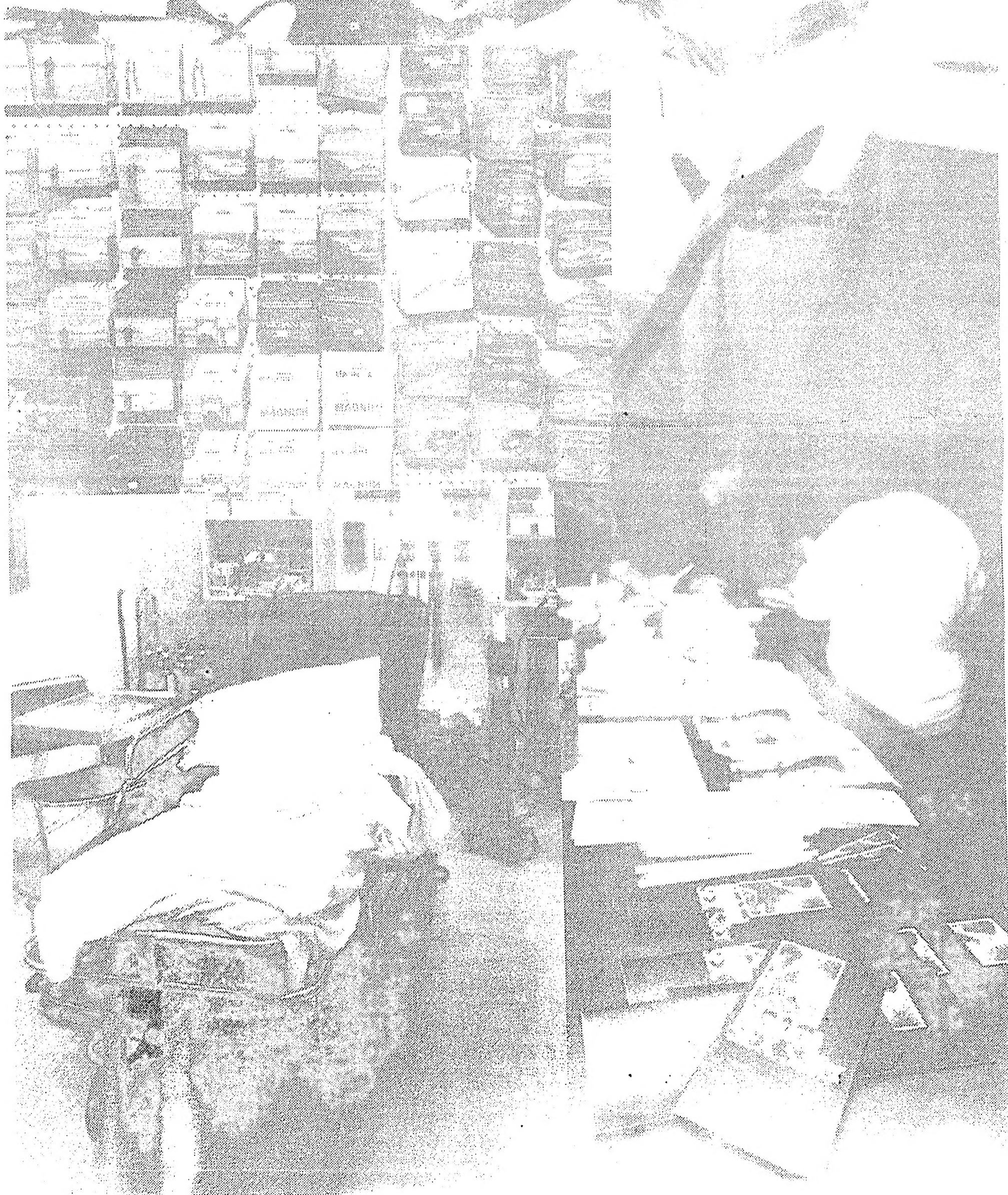
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Special Report: AIDS in the '90s



Special Report:

Class looks at AIDS in the community

National pollsters have called this "The Age of Indifference" for Americans 18 to 30 years old. This group knows less and cares less about news and public affairs than any generation in the past 50 years, reports the Times Mirror Center for The People & The Press.

Among Americans age 18-29, 36 percent voted in the 1988 election. For those under 35, daily newspaper reading has slipped from 67 percent in 1965 to 30 percent in 1990.

But on at least one issue — AIDS — young Americans do express concern, perhaps because they see the epidemic as a real threat.

The 63 cases reported in Nebraska in 1990 brought the state's total to 266 since 1983. Of those, 177 have died, including 11 new cases this year as of February, the State Health Department reported.

Last year, the *Boston Globe* reported that "weary" Americans should brace themselves for an "epidemic" that "threatens to explode during the 1990s." By 1993, more Americans will die from AIDS in a year than died during the 10-year Vietnam War, the *Globe* reported.

In an *Omaha World-Herald* report last year, an Associated Press (AP) story said AIDS is the top killer among 25- to 44-year-old women in New York and Newark, N.J. One-third of women with AIDS appear to have contracted it through sex, the AP reported.

The AIDS message has impacted local high school students, teachers and students said.

AIDS Story Important at Area High Schools

Several area high school newspapers reported this year on AIDS, teen sexuality and teen pregnancy, according to an informal survey.

The Central High School newspaper this year interviewed two people with AIDS in a story titled, "AIDS — a problem everyone should understand." In it, a heterosexual drug user and a bisexual told about life with AIDS. It was a project which would not have been done until recently, said Mike Gaherty, school newspaper advisor.

"I do think there would have been a reaction a few years ago from parents," Gaherty said. "To be honest, this year, I never gave it a thought."

Information on AIDS has become routinely available in the high schools, Gaherty said, and journalism students now introduce the topic at story sessions. A couple of years ago, Gaherty said, AIDS was not being mentioned at these same meetings.

At Abraham Lincoln (A-L) High School in Council Bluffs, newspaper advisor Linda Smoley said her students have been tackling the topics of AIDS and teen sexuality for years. The Earvin "Magic" Johnson announcement, though, made AIDS "seem more real," said one high school student. Others, Smoley said, told her that students would not be thinking about Johnson when they are involved in sexual behavior.

A-L's stories on AIDS and teen pregnancy were titled, "Look before you sleep," and dealt with safe sex concerns by students reacting to the Johnson announcement.

Smoley said she never has received a backlash from parents for aggressive high school journalism on sexual issues. Last year, however, the principal expressed "shock" at the language used in a story on homophobia.

At Thomas Jefferson High School in Council Bluffs, the student newspaper found more students — 72 percent of seniors and 40 percent of freshmen — report having had sex, but fears about AIDS and pregnancy also apparently have led to more use of condoms.

The Gateway Project

Journalism students in UNO's spring public affairs reporting class decided to tackle the AIDS story this spring to find out how the campus and community are coping. With the help of the *Gateway* and its staff, the class is able to publish the information it found.

We knew from national press reports and research that AIDS had changed life at many college campuses. Statistics revealed that about 200 out of 20,000 Pierce College (Calif.) students may be infected, the *Los Angeles Times* reported. AIDS education programs also are in vogue on many college campuses — including the distribution of free condoms.

Research on AIDS shows that while the epidemic continues to expand, some dramatic changes in sexual behavior have occurred. American news media at first were criticized for ignoring AIDS, wrote journalism professors William Griswold of the University of Georgia and Cathy Packer of the University of North Carolina in the latest edition of *Mass Comm Review*. "More recently, mass media have been accused of overstating the risk of AIDS among exclusively heterosexual men and women," they add.

UNO Sociology Professor Mary Ann Lamanna said AIDS has had the effect of cutting down on the amount of casual sex in relationships. The co-author of the textbook, "Marriages and Families, Making Choices and Facing Change" wrote last year that the AIDS threat on college campuses is real because of the increased reports of infected teens.

The AIDS Pandemic

"AIDS has been perceived as a pandemic (a worldwide epidemic), not unlike the medieval plagues," Lamanna wrote. AIDS replaced cancer in 1986 as the major public health concern. "So an unexpected result of the AIDS pandemic might be an erosion of the optimism that has been central to our culture, and, further, a perception that our sense of progress and mastery over nature has been founded on shaky ground."

—by Jeremy Lipschultz
Assistant Professor, Communication

Few students use condoms regularly

By Beth Watson

A recent informal survey of 100 UNO and Creighton University college students showed 22 use condoms on a regular basis.

Of the 78 who said they did not use condoms, 52 said they were in a monogamous relationship. The remaining 26 gave various reasons for not using a condom, including: they felt they are not at risk, they are too embarrassed to ask their partner to wear a condom, they are too embarrassed to take the initiative to put a condom on themselves, or they don't think about it in the heat of the moment.

"A problem for young adults is that they are serially monogamous. They have a serious relationship with someone, break up, and then become serious with someone else," said Ethel Lassiter, education director for Planned Parenthood of Omaha/Council Bluffs.

"A big problem in today's society is that, as a nation, we are in denial. People put a wall of protection around themselves. No one believes that they could become infected with the AIDS virus," Lassiter said.

AIDS is a disease that breaks down the body's immune system, or its ability to fight disease. This leaves a person with AIDS vulnerable to life-threatening illnesses that do not affect people with normal immune systems, reports the American Red Cross.

AIDS is caused by a virus that infects and damages cells of the immune system. This virus also can infect cells of the central nervous system, causing mental or emotional disorders.

The Iowa Department of Public Health reports that AIDS was first identified in the United States in mid-1981. Since then, more than 200,000 Americans have contracted AIDS.

AIDS is spread through sexual contact in which blood or body fluids (semen, urine, feces, vaginal secretions) are transmitted; by sharing drug needles contaminated with the AIDS virus; and infected pregnant mother may pass the virus to her infant during pregnancy, at birth, or possibly through breast milk; and transfusion of blood or blood components contaminated with the AIDS virus, the Red Cross reports.

The Iowa Department of Public Health found most people with the AIDS virus have no symptoms and feel well. Some develop symptoms which may include tiredness, fever, loss of appetite and weight, diarrhea, night sweats and swollen glands — usually in the neck, armpits or groin.

"I do not think that young adults are more promiscuous," Lassiter said. "They just don't use protection as much, which puts them at risk."

Lassiter said sexually active people can protect themselves against AIDS.

See AIDS, page 4A

Nebraska AIDS cases ranked low nationally

By Ryan Kenyon

There are 266 Nebraskans who have been diagnosed with AIDS since 1983.

According to Carol Allensworth, supervisor of epidemiology for the Douglas County Health Department, Nebraska has one of the lowest infection rates in the country, making it difficult to track trends.

"Our numbers are a little small to look at trends, but we do monitor the source of infection," she said. Allensworth monitors health epidemics in Nebraska.

Anne Else, hotline coordinator for the Nebraska AIDS Project (NAP), said Nebraska is not ranked nationally in numbers of AIDS cases.

"Cases of AIDS in Nebraska are monitored by the number of living AIDS victims per 100,000 people. Nebraska has 3.9 cases per 100,000 people. By way of comparison, Iowa has 3.4 and North Dakota has 0.6, which is the

lowest nationally," she said. New York, one of the highest states with infection, has 43.9 per 100,000.

Among these groups, homosexuals and intravenous drug users account for 84 percent of the cases in Nebraska. People who contracted the disease through tainted blood products represent 7 percent; heterosexuals, 3 percent; and infections of unknown origin, 6 percent.

The Douglas County Health Department estimates there are 1,500 to 2,000 people who are HIV-positive in Nebraska, Allensworth said.

"It's hard to say just how many people are HIV-positive because only AIDS cases are reported, but we estimate that for every person diagnosed with AIDS, there are eight people who are HIV-positive," she said.

While these numbers may look high, the number of AIDS cases in the United States is much higher.

Cases of AIDS in the United States, as of March 31, have reached 218,641, according to the Center for Disease Control (CDC) in Atlanta.

The CDC monitors the number of cases in the United States and is a vehicle for educating people about how to avoid exposure to the virus. The CDC also separates the cases into demographic groups.

Of the total number of cases, 211,609 have been over age 13, while 3,692 have been children.

Among adult cases, 192,002 have been men, while 22,607 have been women.

In the area of racial breakdown, whites ac-

count for the highest number of cases, followed by blacks, Hispanics, Asians and American Indians, who have the lowest number of infections.

People between the ages of 30 and 34 make up the largest overall age group, followed by the 45-49 and 20-24 groups, respectively. People over the age of 65 still account for three times more AIDS cases than teenagers.

Regarding the method of transmission, the largest group is homosexuals, followed by intravenous drug users and heterosexuals.

People who were infected by tainted blood or tissue represent the smallest group nationally.

The cities with the highest incidents of AIDS are New York City, Los Angeles and San Francisco, while the states with the most cases are New York, California and Florida.

The CDC estimates by the end of 1993, there will be 1 million Americans who carry the HIV virus, whether they are aware of it or not.

Nebraska has 3.9 cases (of AIDS) per 100,000 people.

—Anne Else of NAP

AIDS in the '90s

Research advances despite funding problems

By Deanne Nelson

"Exceptional circumstances require exceptional measures," said Dr. Mario Stevenson, assistant professor of pathology/microbiology at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

With the AIDS epidemic now affecting more than 200,000 Americans, Stevenson said more money for AIDS research is needed.

Stevenson, an AIDS researcher who with co-researchers has submitted a paper for publication about their recent findings, had research published in *Science* in October 1991. Their research showed a link between the spread of the AIDS virus and opportunistic infections.

Opportunistic infections include colds, flus and other such viruses.

The research determined the activation of white blood cells to fight these opportunistic infections can trigger the spread of the AIDS virus. White blood cells, also called lymphocytes or T-cells, are usually inactive or non-dividing cells in healthy people.

When the AIDS virus enters the body, it takes up residence in the T-cells. While there, the research showed, it sits dormant until the T-cells are called into action to fight an infection. This causes the AIDS virus to spread and grow, meanwhile killing the T-cell it has entered and going on to affect other cells.

"We now understand one of the key molecular mechanisms by which opportunistic infections can activate the AIDS virus and accelerate the disease progression," Stevenson said.

"Our research was an indication of latency," he said. "We also found out how the virus is turned on."

The next step is to find a way to keep the immune system free of opportunistic infections that trigger T-cell division.

"By doing so, we can keep the AIDS virus locked in the lymphocytes in a dormant state," Stevenson said. This would result in people with HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) not having full-blown AIDS.

"HIV still has some surprises," he said. "The virus appears invincible, but now we need to find some chinks in its armor."

Finding these "chinks in its armor" is directly related to research funding, he said.

"I don't think there is enough money (given to AIDS research), but I think redistributing (available monetary resources) is wrong," he said. "It shouldn't be taken from cancer research funds, for example."

UNO students agreed with Stevenson, but didn't offer any viable solutions to finding more resources for research.

"It should be a higher priority," said UNO senior broadcasting major Brian Clary.

"Not enough money is being used for research. In his State of the Union address, (President) Bush didn't mention money for AIDS research. I think he is more concerned about getting rid of Hussein than helping the (Earvin) "Magic" Johnsons and Arthur Ashes. Bush is saying, 'If you get it (research money), great, but we're not giving you any'," said Greg Gardner, a UNO junior speech major.

"I think they should put more money into educating the young people. They also should raise taxes overall and take it from the rich people," said UNO junior communications major Vera Verrips.

"There should be more money given to it. They shouldn't take it from cancer, but could from research on how long an amoeba lives in water and things like that," said Amy Jo Richards, a UNO junior sociology major.

"We need to keep all of the fields of research active," Stevenson said.

He said it takes about 10 years from the time AIDS research is completed until it is used.



—Ed Carlson

Due to the threat of the AIDS virus, University of Nebraska Medical Center staff members wear germ masks with face plates in treating emergency room patients.

Counseling and testing provided

Nebraska AIDS Project strives to educate

By Kara Schweiss

"Fear of the unknown" is the strongest deterrent to getting an AIDS test, said Merritt Stinson, coordinator for the Nebraska AIDS Project (NAP) test site. It also can be the biggest contributor to the spread of HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus).

Anyone who has had unprotected vaginal, oral or anal sex could have contracted the disease from an unknowing infected partner as early as 1977.

Heterosexuals are no more immune from HIV than homosexuals. Although the risk of contracting HIV increases with every sex partner, a single contact with one infected partner still can result in transmission of HIV. An HIV-infected person can show no outward symptoms for up to 10 years, and once infected, a person can transmit the disease to others immediately.

According to Anne Else, NAP Hotline Coordinator, young heterosexual men and women are one of the hardest groups to effectively educate. They also are the ones experiencing the greatest recent increases in numbers of new cases.

"On the whole, they consider themselves immortal," Else said. "For us, this is a compelling reason to get people to test."

One new trend Else said NAP is seeing is couples coming in together for testing. She said she believes this is a positive development, although it sometimes is the result of a lack of trust in a partner's background. If this is the case, she said, she recommends that the uncertain partner suggest they both be tested at the same time. This way both are reassured and no one feels accused.

Confronting the possibility of AIDS exposure can be frightening, because positive results mean a premature death. Another reason for fear is facing the potential guilt of possibly unwittingly infecting others through carelessness.

Although the fear of knowing is certainly strong, Else said, most people find the fear of not knowing is even stronger.

"You are already worrying about it," she said, since most people who get tested feel they have put themselves at risk at some point. "But the odds are that you are going to get a negative result."

Out of 542 clients tested in the first quarter of this year, she said, only three tested positive.

Stinson said although being tested takes courage, it is a positive step no matter what the test results show. If people test positive, which occurs in less than 3 percent of the cases tested through NAP, they can take constructive steps to protect their health and perhaps slow the onset of AIDS. In addition, they can avoid infecting others and notify previous sex partners who might have been exposed.

"Finding out early enables you to lengthen your life," Else said.

Testing negative, while in itself is a tremendous relief, also encourages more responsible future behavior.

"Once you've been tested and cleared, you can start with a clean slate," Stinson said.

NAP offers a number of services, including counseling and public education programs, outside of its free and confidential testing. The test site is located at 3624 Leavenworth, and is open from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Mondays and Thursdays.

Although increased numbers of people have sought testing in recent weeks due to increased publicity about heterosexual transmission, walk-ins are still welcome.

"We do not want to appear as a gay organization," Stinson said. "We try not to cater to one group. We are open to everybody."

On an average test night, 18 to 25 people are tested at the NAP site.

Stinson said the second biggest deterrent to AIDS testing is the fear of running into somebody one knows at the test site. With stigmas still attached to the disease despite publicity and public education efforts otherwise, many people are afraid they will be viewed as homosexual, an IV drug user or as

especially promiscuous if they seek AIDS testing.

Although confidentiality and anonymity are strongly emphasized, Stinson said, other sources also exist in Omaha for testing. Some of these include Charles Drew Health Clinic, Douglas County Health Department and Equilibrium Medical Center. All of these offer other health services as well, but testing may not be free and they may not guarantee anonymity.

In addition, the NAP site is the only testing center which does not require advance appointments. Since NAP tests for HIV/AIDS only, Else said, it "absorbs the major bulk of the testing" in the local area.

Testing at NAP involves a pre-counseling session immediately before blood testing, and a follow-up counseling session when results are given two weeks later. The counseling sessions are highly individualized, according to the concerns of the client being tested and their responses to fact-finding questions about their particular risk possibility. In addition, all clients are prepared for the possibility of dealing with a positive test result.

Topics covered during pre-test counseling include what HIV and AIDS are, how the testing procedure works, what behavior is risky and to what degree, and how to practice safer sex. It is emphasized that this information is to promote safer sex, not to promote or condemn a particular lifestyle. When the results come in, Stinson said, it is very difficult to tell someone they have tested positive.

"There is no easy way to bring a person into a room and tell them 'You've tested positive'. That's like a long-term death sentence. Sometimes they take it well; sometimes you cry with them."

NAP offers a variety of services for people with AIDS or who are HIV-positive, in addition to a number of support groups. Anyone interested in working as a NAP volunteer or who is interested in NAP services can call the NAP Hotline at 342-4233 in Omaha, or 800-782-AIDS outside of Omaha.

AIDS in the '90s

AIDS in high schools

Omaha teens get needed AIDS education

By Jill Degan

In mid-February a rural high school in a small Texas ranching community made headlines nationwide. It was reported that six teenagers at Rivercrest High School, with an enrollment of 197 students, tested positive for the virus that causes AIDS.

Today's educators face more responsibility in the classrooms than ever before. In addition to reading, writing and arithmetic, sex education and substance abuse have been added to the new curriculum.

The Omaha Public Schools (OPS), which includes Burke and Central high schools, has one of the most thorough curriculums, according to Rich Werkheiser, director of secondary education at OPS. Every student must take a semester of human growth and development in the 10th grade. The class covers birth control devices, sexually transmitted diseases and health care, with 10 consecutive days devoted to AIDS.

"Our purpose is trying to get kids to change

their behavior," Werkheiser said.

Although OPS teaches abstinence, condoms — as a means of protection, — are discussed.

"We teach them that someday they made need these, but abstinence should be considered first," Werkheiser said.

Werkheiser adds students are being taught at an increasingly younger age about AIDS and are given information throughout their education, but they are just not listening.

"With kids you have that 'never going to happen to me mentality'. It is this teenage mentality that has our teachers frustrated," Werkheiser said.

Doug Krecklow, head of Westside High School's physical education department, said he agrees with Werkheiser.

"Kids by and large know about AIDS. The real problem is they don't think they can get it," Krecklow said.

At Westside, all students are required to take a health/physical education class in the 9th or 10th grade. The class focuses on sexu-

ality in societal issues; like date rape, sexual harassment and sexually transmitted diseases.

District 66, which includes Westside, established a district-wide health committee to develop an AIDS curriculum at various intervals in a student's academic career.

Abstinence is taught as the most effective means of AIDS prevention. Condom usage is suggested if you are going to engage in risky behavior, but no other birth control devices are discussed.

Marian High School, an Omaha Catholic all-girls school, also has incorporated AIDS education into students' curriculum. Students are required to take a holistic life class in the 10th grade, which includes sexuality, birth control and sexually transmitted diseases.

In addition to birth control, Marian students are taught about the mechanics of AIDS, what is involved during testing and the importance of compassion for AIDS victims.

Kathy Janata, counselor and holistic class instructor, said she believes students are aware

and scared of AIDS, but they think they are invincible.

Creighton Prep, an Omaha Catholic all-boys school, includes AIDS awareness in its curriculum as well. However, unlike Marian, it will not discuss condoms because of the Catholic Church's position on not using contraception and remaining abstinent.

Today, most fourth-grade students will have taken two sex education classes before they reach high school, followed by an additional two or three once they get there. But, according to area educators, all this knowledge and information isn't helping.

"Kids think they're invincible. It's just like drinking and driving. They don't think it can happen to them until it does happen or to someone they know," Krecklow said.

The Federal Centers for Disease Control reported that 789 of the 206,392 cases of AIDS diagnosed nationwide through last December were teenagers. The center estimates 1 million people are carrying the virus nationwide.

Where can I find out more about AIDS?

Off-campus:

- Nebraska Department of Health AIDS Program
301 Centennial Mall South
Lincoln, NE 68509
(402)471-2937
- Douglas County Health Department
1819 Farnam Street, Room 401
Omaha, NE 68183
(402)444-6975
- Nebraska AIDS Project
3624 Leavenworth Street
Omaha, NE 68105
(402)342-4233

Nebraska AIDS Project Hotline
1-800-782-AIDS

On-campus

- UNO Health Services, located in the Student Center on the first floor
- Women's Resource Center, located in the Student Center on the third floor

Ignorance is not bliss. If you have questions, call and ask someone.

From AIDS, page 2A

"In my view, the first thing you should do to protect yourself against AIDS is to know your partner and their sex history," she said. "Socialization in this country is to go to bed with someone before knowing them. We feel comfortable making love to someone, but not comfortable asking them intimate questions."

Lassiter said even after you know someone, you should be responsible and use protection. Condoms made of latex rubber are recommended, and people should never use the same condom twice. Use a water-based lubricant with your condom to add safety. Do not use oil-based jelly, cold cream, baby oil or shortening, as these can cause the condom to break. Check the expiration date.

Besides the need for proper condom use, Lassiter said there needs to be more of an emphasis on AIDS education in the school setting.

"I think that we need more emphasis from the community and more talk about sexual intercourse in classroom settings. There is not nearly enough opportunity for young adults to discuss the pros and cons of becoming sexually active and its consequences," Lassiter said.

The AIDS quiz: Can you pass?

1. Can a pregnant woman who has the AIDS virus infect her unborn baby?
2. Is there a cure for AIDS?
3. Can a person be infected with the AIDS virus without showing symptoms for five to ten years?
4. Is there a vaccine that protects people from being infected with the AIDS virus?
5. Does a positive blood test mean the person can transmit the virus?
6. Can a person infected with the AIDS virus not have the disease?
7. Can you be infected by eating at a restaurant where the waiter or waitress is HIV-infected?
8. Does it take more than a few days after infected to test positive?
9. Can you be infected by a mosquito bite?
10. Can a baby become infected by nursing from its infected mother?
11. Can you be infected by contact with saliva?
12. Can you be infected by donating or giving blood?
13. Does the AIDS virus attack red blood cells?

How did your knowledge compare to the public knowledge in Texas in 1989?

Question #1	97.6 percent correct
Question #2	95.4 percent correct
Question #3	95.1 percent correct
Question #4	92.4 percent correct
Question #5	87.7 percent correct
Question #6	86.9 percent correct
Question #7	86.0 percent correct
Question #8	74.1 percent correct
Question #9	72.5 percent correct
Question #10	65.6 percent correct
Question #11	52.4 percent correct
Question #12	50.2 percent correct
Question #13	37.8 percent correct

Answers:

1. yes 2. no 3. yes 4. no 5. yes 6. yes 7. no 8. yes 9. no 10. yes 11. yes 12. no 13. yes